

## DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

### Description of Proposal:

Clark County is proposing a non-project action to update its Stormwater and Erosion Control and Water Quality ordinances, and to develop guidance manuals for the implementation of the ordinances.

This proposal includes updating the following ordinances and manuals:

- Chapter 40.380 Stormwater and Erosion Control Ordinance
- Chapter 13.26 Water Quality Ordinance
- Clark County Stormwater Pollution Control Manual – Best Management Practices for Businesses and Government Agencies
- Clark County Stormwater Facility Maintenance Manual

A state-issued municipal stormwater permit requires the county to develop a program that includes a process of permits, plan review, inspections, and enforcement capability to meet the Department of Ecology's stormwater standards for both private and public development projects that discharge to the municipal storm sewer system. The county is proposing to update the stormwater and erosion control ordinance because current regulations do not meet the Department of Ecology's newest permit requirements to follow state guidelines for controlling stormwater and erosion on development and construction sites. The new guidelines are more protective of streams and lakes, and groundwater resources.

The county's stormwater and erosion control ordinance regulates how land disturbing activities deal with stormwater and erosion control. The ordinance is designed to help ensure that construction activities and new hard surfaces do not cause significant harm to local water bodies and groundwater supplies. Land disturbing activities may include constructing roads, driveways, and buildings, and creating pastures and lawns.

The county's water quality ordinance helps to further protect surface and groundwater resources by setting minimum requirements for reducing and controlling the discharge of contaminants and stormwater flows. It prohibits the discharge of contaminants to surface water, stormwater, and groundwater, and it requires business and government properties to use pollution control best management practices (BMPs) and maintain their stormwater facility. The water quality ordinance must be updated to adopt the more recent state standards for preventing pollutants from business and government operations from reaching the storm sewer.

Clark County also proposes to develop a Stormwater Manual to contain the technical amendments to the 2005 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and guide the implementation of the local regulations.

**Proponent:** Clark County, Washington

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any:** This proposal is not site specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

**Lead Agency:** Clark County, Washington

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

The lead agency has determined that the requirements for environmental analysis, protection, and mitigation measures have been adequately addressed in the development regulations and comprehensive plan adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW, and in other applicable local, state, or federal laws or rules, as

provided by RCW 43.21C.240 and WAC 197-11-158. Our agency will not require any additional mitigation measures under SEPA.

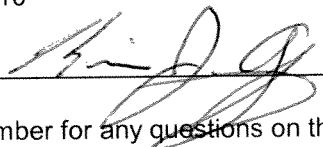
This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 30 days from the signature date below.

Comments must be submitted by August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

**Responsible Official:** Kevin Gray

**Position/title:** Deputy Public Works Director

**Address:** Clark County Public Works  
1300 Franklin Street  
PO Box 9810  
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810

**Date:** 7-15-08 **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

The staff contact person and telephone number for any questions on this review is Robin Krause, Project Manager, (360) 397-6118, ext. 4911.